IN THE CLAIMS:

The following is a complete listing of the claims, and replaces all earlier version and listings.

1. (currently amended): A server capable of communicating with a device, comprising:

a first storage unit adapted to store information representing an ability of the device;

a second storage unit adapted to store information representing an ability of a device driver for the device;

a retrieval condition reception unit adapted to receive a retrieval condition including at least one item for selecting the device;

a comparing unit adapted to compare the retrieval condition received by said retrieval condition reception unit with combined information, the combined information being a combination of the information stored by said first storage unit and the information stored by said second storage unit; and

an output unit adapted to output a ~~comparing~~ result ~~obtained~~ of comparing by said comparing unit,

wherein said output unit outputs information for identifying, among the at least one item included in the search condition, an item which does not conform to the ability of the device but conforms to the ability of the device driver.

2. (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, further comprising:

a first reception unit adapted to receive the information representing the ability of the device; and

a second reception unit adapted to receive the information representing the ability of the device driver for the device.

3. (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, further comprising a generation unit adapted to generate the combined information by combining the information stored by said first storage unit and the information stored by said second storage unit together.

4. (previously presented): A server according to claim 3, further comprising a third storage unit adapted to store the combined information generated by said generation unit.

5. (previously presented): A server according to claim 4, wherein said comparing unit compares the combined information stored by said third storage unit with the retrieval condition.

6. (currently amended): A server according to claim 1, wherein ~~the retrieval condition includes plural conditions,~~

~~wherein said comparing unit compares the information stored by said first storage unit and the information stored by said second storage unit with each condition included in the retrieval condition, and~~

~~wherein~~ said output unit outputs an adaptivity based on the number of adapted ~~conditions~~ item(s) among the ~~plural conditions~~ at least one item included in the retrieval condition.

7. (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein the information representing the ability of the device is information concerning any one of duplex print, N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, a paper size, and a status of the device.

8. (previously presented): A server according to claim 1, wherein the comparing by said comparing unit is performed with respect to plural devices.

9. - 20. (canceled).

21. (currently amended): An information processing method which is executed by a server capable of communicating with a device, comprising the steps of:

storing first information representing an ability of the device;

storing second information representing ability of a device driver for the device;

receiving a retrieval condition including at least one item for selecting the device;

comparing the retrieval condition received in said retrieving step with combined information, the combined information being a combination of the first information and the second information; and

outputting a ~~comparing~~ result ~~obtained~~ of comparing in said comparing step,

wherein outputting step includes outputting information for identifying, among the at least one item included in the search condition, an item which does not conform to the ability of the device but conforms to the ability of the device driver.

22. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, further comprising the steps of:

receiving the first information representing the ability of the device; and

receiving the second information representing the ability of the device driver for the device.

23. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, further comprising the step of generating the combined information by combining the first and the second information together.

24. (previously presented): A method according to claim 23, further comprising the step of storing the combined information generated in said generating step in a storage unit.

25. (previously presented): A method according to claim 24, wherein said comparing step includes comparing the combined information with the retrieval condition.

26. (currently amended): A method according to claim 21, wherein ~~the retrieval condition includes plural conditions,~~

~~wherein, in said comparing step, the first information and the second information are compared with each condition included in the retrieval condition, and~~

~~wherein~~ said outputting step includes outputting an adaptivity based on the number of adapted ~~conditions~~ item(s) among the ~~plural conditions~~ at least one item included in the retrieval condition.

27. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, wherein the first information representing the ability of the device is information concerning any one of duplex print, N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, a paper size, and a status of the device.

28. (previously presented): A method according to claim 21, wherein the comparing in said comparing step is performed with respect to plural devices.

29. - 40. (canceled).

41. (currently amended): ~~An information processing program, stored in a~~ computer-readable ~~storage~~ medium storing an information processing program, ~~and~~ which is executed by a server capable of communicating with a device, wherein said program causes a computer to execute:

a first storing step of storing first information representing an ability of the device;

a second storing step of storing second information representing an ability of a device driver for the device;

a receiving step of receiving a retrieval condition including at least one item for selecting the device;

a comparing step of comparing the retrieval condition received in said retrieving step with combined information, the combined information being a combination of the first information and the second information; and

outputting a ~~comparing~~ result ~~obtained~~ of comparing in said comparing step,

wherein outputting step includes outputting information for identifying, among the at least one item included in the search condition, an item which does not conform to the ability of the device but conforms to the ability of the device driver.

42. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein said program causes the computer to execute steps of:

receiving the first information representing the ability of the device; and

receiving the second information representing the ability of the device driver for the device.

43. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein said program causes the computer to execute a step of generating the combined information by combining the first information and the second information together.

44. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 43, further comprising storing the combined information generated in said generating step in a storage unit.

45. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 44, wherein said comparing step includes comparing the combined information with the retrieval condition.

46. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein ~~the retrieval condition includes plural conditions,~~

~~wherein said retrieving step includes comparing the first information and the second information with each condition included in the retrieval condition, and~~

~~wherein~~ said outputting step includes outputting an adaptivity based on the number of adapted ~~conditions~~ item(s) among the ~~plural conditions~~ at least one item included in the retrieval condition.

47. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein the first information representing the ability of the device is information concerning any one of duplex print, N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, a paper size, and a status of the device.

48. (currently amended): A ~~program~~ computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein the comparing in said comparing step is performed with respect to plural devices.

49. -79. (canceled).

80. (new): A server according to claim 1, wherein the at least one item included in the search condition is information concerning any one of duplex print, N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, and paper size.

81. (new): A method according to claim 21, wherein the at least one item included in the search condition is information concerning any one of duplex print,

N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, and paper size.

82. (new): A computer-readable medium according to claim 41, wherein the at least one item included in the search condition is information concerning any one of duplex print, N-up print, jobcopy, pagecopy, OHP insertion print, resolution, the number of print pages, and paper size.